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AUG 26 2004

Application No.	:	09/748,542	Confirmation No.:	3020
Applicant	:	Itoh, et al.		
Filed	:	December 26, 2000		
TC/A.U.	:	2655		
Examiner	:	LEWIS, MICHAEL A.		
Docket No.	:	5169-169		
IBM Docket No.	:	JA9-1999-0251US1		

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

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**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed May 28, 2004 (Office Action), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this submission.

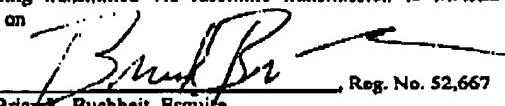
**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this submission.

(WP195255;2)

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Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile transmission to MAILSTOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents at 703-872-9306 on

26 Aug 2004  
Date

  
Brian K. Buchheit, Esquire Reg. No. 52,667